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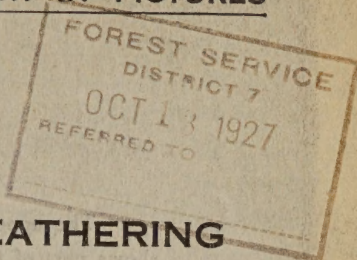
FOREST PRODUCTS RESEARCH IN PICTURES

NO. 78

**PAINT RETARDS WEATHERING
OF WOOD SURFACE**



**FOREST PRODUCTS LABORATORY
U. S. FOREST SERVICE
MADISON, WISCONSIN**



The uppermost of the two adjoining photographs shows part of the surface of an unpainted edge-grain softwood board which has been exposed to the weather for one year on the paint test fence of the U. S. Forest Products Laboratory at Madison, Wis. The surface is already considerably "washboarded" because of the permanent "set" resulting from differences in the swelling and shrinking of springwood and summerwood. The smoother surface below - on which the only irregularities are the marks of the brush - is on a similar edge-grain board of the same species which was given three coats of ordinary house paint and exposed for the same length of time. This board was photographed at the same distance as the other.

Painting is the best means known for protecting exposed wood from the deterioration known as weathering, which is caused by the shrinking of the surface layers of wood fibers with rapid moisture changes.

*Photographs by Forest Products Laboratory,
U. S. Forest Service*



